

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Reinforcing fibers having an applied chemical treatment wherein said applied chemical treatment is applied as an aqueous treatment comprising an emulsified polyester resin, a curing agent, an epoxidized polyvinyl acetate film former, a thickener polymer, and water.
2. (Currently Amended) The reinforcing fibers product of claim 1 wherein the applied chemical treatment is dried.
3. (Canceled) ~~The product of claim 1 wherein the emulsified polyester resin is PE412, available from OC Anderson.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The reinforcing fibers product of claim 1 wherein the curing agent is a peroxide.
5. (Currently Amended) The reinforcing fibers product of claim 1 wherein the curing agent is chosen from the group consisting of benzoyl peroxide, dieumyl peroxide, and mixtures thereof.
6. (Currently Amended) The reinforcing fibers product of claim 1 wherein the film former is a vinyl polymer.
7. (Canceled) ~~The product of claim 1 wherein the film former is a polyvinyl acetate.~~
8. (Canceled) ~~The product of claim 1 wherein the film former is Duracet 675-01, available from Franklin International.~~
9. (Currently Amended) The reinforcing fibers product of claim 1 wherein the thickener is a water soluble polymer.
10. (Currently Amended) The reinforcing fibers product of claim 1 wherein the thickener is an acrylic polymer.

11. (Canceled) ~~The product of claim 1 wherein the thickener is chosen from the group consisting of Carbopol 941, Carbopol 981, and mixtures thereof, each available from B.F. Goodrich.~~
12. (Currently Amended) The reinforcing fibers ~~product~~ of claim 1 wherein the water is deionized water.
13. (Currently Amended) The reinforcing fibers ~~product~~ of claim 2 wherein said reinforcing fibers form a strand having the applied chemical treatment.
14. (Original) A reinforcing fiber mat comprising the reinforcing fibers of claim 13.
15. (Original) A composite comprising a polymer matrix and the reinforcing fiber mat of claim 14.
16. (Withdrawn) A string binder comprising:  
a fibrous substrate; and  
a chemical treatment coated to said fibrous substrate, said chemical treatment comprising an emulsified polyester resin, a curing agent, a film former, a thickener polymer, and water.
17. (Withdrawn) The string binder of claim 16 further comprising a sizing composition, wherein said sizing composition is coupled between said fibrous substrate and said chemical treatment.
18. (Withdrawn) The string binder of claim 16, wherein said film former is a vinyl polymer.
19. (Withdrawn) The string binder of claim 16, wherein said thickener is an acrylic polymer.
20. (Withdrawn) The string binder of claim 16, wherein said curing agent is a peroxide.